

Applicant believes that the present application is now in condition for allowance.
Favorable reconsideration of the application as amended is respectfully requested.

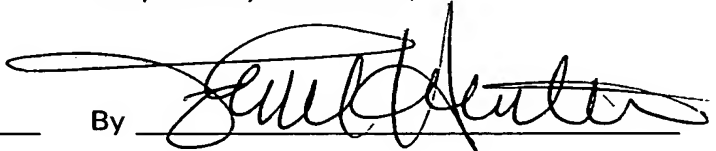
The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned by telephone if it is felt that a telephone interview would advance the prosecution of the present application.

Respectfully submitted,

Date

Jan. 15, 2002

By



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MARKED UP AMENDED CLAIMS

1 15. (Once Amended) The method of claim 10, wherein enhancing critical
2 areas with assigned phase polarities includes [adding] defining edges to the critical
3 areas.

1 16. (Once Amended) A method of enhancing clear field phase shift masks
2 with a border around outside edges, the method comprising:
3 assigning phase polarities to phase regions;
4 defining edges of the assigned phase regions;
5 establishing a boundary around the [added] defined edges; and
6 assigning area outside of the established boundary to have phase zero.